

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for identifying an agent that modulates the activity of a cancer-related gene comprising:

- 5       (a) contacting a compound with a cell containing a gene that corresponds to the polynucleotide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4 and under conditions promoting the expression of said gene; and
- (b) detecting a difference in expression of said gene relative to when said compound is not present
- 10       thereby identifying an agent that modulates the activity of a cancer-related gene.

2 The process of claim 1 wherein said gene has the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.

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3. The process of claim 1 or 2 wherein the cell is a cancer cell and the difference in expression is a decrease in expression.

4. The process of claim 3 wherein said cancer cell is a prostate cancer cell:

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5. A process for identifying an anti-neoplastic agent comprising contacting a cell exhibiting neoplastic activity with a compound first identified as a cancer related gene modulator using a process of one of claims 1, 2, 3 or

25       4 and determining a decrease in said neoplastic activity after said contacting compared to when said contacting does not occur.

6. The process of claim 5 wherein said neoplastic activity is accelerated cellular replication.

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7. The process of claim 5 wherein said decrease in neoplastic activity results from the death of the cell.

8. A process for identifying an anti-neoplastic agent comprising administering to an animal exhibiting a cancer condition an effective amount of an agent first identified according to a process of one of claims 1, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
5 6 or 7 and detecting a decrease in said cancerous condition.

9. A process for determining the cancerous status of a cell, comprising determining an increase in the level of expression in said cell of a gene that corresponds to a polynucleotide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4  
10 wherein an elevated expression relative to a known non-cancerous cell indicates a cancerous state or potentially cancerous state.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein said elevated expression is due to an increased copy number.  
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11. An isolated polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence homologous to the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 5 wherein any difference between said amino acid sequence and the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 5 is due solely to conservative amino acid substitutions and wherein  
20 said isolated polypeptide comprises at least one immunogenic fragment.

12. An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 5.

25 13. An antibody that reacts with a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 3 or 5.

14. The antibody of claim 13 wherein said antibody is a recombinant antibody.

30 15. The antibody of claim 13 wherein said antibody is a synthetic antibody.

16. The antibody of claim 13 wherein said antibody is a humanized antibody.

17. An immunoconjugate comprising the antibody of claim 13 and a  
5 cytotoxic agent.

18. The antibody of claim 17 wherein said cytotoxic agent is a member  
selected from the group consisting of a calicheamicin, a maytansinoid, an  
adozelesin, a cytotoxic protein, a taxol, a taxotere, a taxoid and DC1.  
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19. The immunoconjugate of claim 18 wherein said calicheamicin is  
calicheamicin  $\gamma_1^I$ , N-acetyl gamma calicheamicin dimethyl hydrazide or  
calicheamicin  $\theta_1^I$ .

20. The immunoconjugate of claim 18 wherein said maytansinoid is  
15 DM1.

21. The immunoconjugate of claim 18 wherein said cytotoxic protein is  
ricin, abrin, gelonin, pseudomonas exotoxin or diphtheria toxin.  
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22. The immunoconjugate of claim 18 wherein said taxol is paclitaxel.

23. The immunoconjugate of claim 18 wherein said taxotere is  
docetaxel.  
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24. A process for treating cancer comprising contacting a cancerous  
cell *in vivo* with an agent having activity against an expression product  
encoded by the gene sequence of SEQ ID NO: 2 or 4.

25. The process of claim 24 wherein said agent is an antibody of claim  
30 13 – 16.

26. The process of claim 24 wherein said agent is an immunoconjugate of claim 17.
27. An immunogenic composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 11.
- 5 28. An immunogenic composition comprising a polypeptide of claim 12.
29. The process of claim 24 wherein said cancer is prostate cancer.
- 10 30. A process for treating cancer in an animal afflicted therewith comprising administering to said animal an amount of an immunogenic composition of claim 27 sufficient to elicit the production of cytotoxic T lymphocytes specific for the polypeptide of claim 11.
- 15 31. A process for treating cancer in an animal afflicted therewith comprising administering to said animal an amount of an immunogenic composition of claim 28 sufficient to elicit the production of cytotoxic T lymphocytes specific for the polypeptide of claim 12.
- 20 32. A process for treating a cancerous condition in an animal afflicted therewith comprising administering to said animal a therapeutically effective amount of an agent first identified as having anti-neoplastic activity using the process of claim 8.
- 25 33. A process for protecting an animal against cancer comprising administering to an animal at risk of developing cancer a therapeutically effective amount of an agent first identified as having anti-neoplastic activity using the process of claim 8.
- 30 34. The process of claim 30, 31, 32 or 33 wherein said animal is a human being.

35. The process of claim 30, 31, 32 or 33 wherein said cancer is prostate cancer.